



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
ACCORDING TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**

APPLICANT(S): Arndt, et al. DOCKET NO: P03,0366  
SERIAL NO.: 10/675,305 ART UNIT: 2643  
FILED: September 30, 2003 EXAMINER:  
CONF. NO. 5361  
TITLE: "FEEDBACK COMPENSATION DEVICE AND METHOD, AND HEARING  
AID DEVICE EMPLOYING SAME"

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98, Applicant respectfully requests that a citation and examination of the references identified on the attached PTO 1449 form be made during the course of examination of the above-identified application for United States Patent.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed according to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) and before the latter occurrence of:

- (1) three months from the filing date of a national application;
- (2) three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.491 in an international application; or
- (3) the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

**REMARKS**

The attached PTO 1449 form lists related art references for the above identified application.

**EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE**

References AL-AR were cited during the prosecution of the priority application. The relevance of reference AP was discussed in the Specification. References AP-AR are in English, so no further commentary on their teaching is required. References AL-AO are German language patent documents. Reference AA is a U.S. Patent corresponding to reference AN, and reference AB is a U.S. Patent corresponding to reference AO. An English language abstract has been provided for references AL and AM, and a full translation will be produced at the request of the Examiner.

The filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in the present Information Disclosure Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

The above citation of related art is not a representation that such art constitutes a complete or exhaustive listing of all pertinent related art, nor that it necessarily includes the closest or most relevant art. The aforementioned citation comprises a voluntary citation of related art of which applicant and his attorney are presently aware and is not intended to serve as a substitute for the Examiner's own search.

Submitted by,

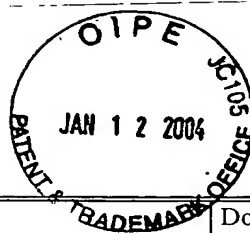
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#### **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on January 9, 2004.

Mark Bergner



Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**  
(use several sheets if necessary)

Docket No. P03,0366	Serial No. 10/675,305
Applicant Arndt et al	
Filing Date September 30, 2003	Group Art Unit 2643

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner's Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If appropriate
	AA	6,539,091	03/25/2003	Schertler			
	AB	6,618,481	09/09/2003	Schmidt			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL	196 35 878	03/05/1998	Germany			Abstract	
	AM	196 39 580	09/17/1998	Germany			Abstract	
	AN	197 14 966	04/01/1999	Germany			See AA	
	AO	198 05 942	08/12/1999	Germany			See AB	
	AP	WO 00/19605	04/06/2000	International				
	AQ	WO 01/10170	02/08/2001	International				
	AR	1 191 814	03/27/2002	Europe				
	AS							

**OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

	AT	
	AU	
	AV	
	AW	

Examiner	Date Considered
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**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.